(b) if so, the reaction of Government on such views expressed by UN's Committee on Rights of the Child;

(c) whether the existing Child Labour laws are adequate to deal with the situation; and

(d) if not, the other steps Government propose to take to made the Child Labour laws more effective ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (d) UN Committee on Convention on the Rights of the Child met in Geneva in January, 2000. In its final observations the Committee noted the amendments to the Schedule to the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986. It expressed concern at the large number of working children and against non enforcement of minimum age standards for employment. It recommended ratification of ILO Convention NO. 138 concerning the minimum age for admission to employment and No. 182 concerning prohibition and immediate action for the elimination of the worst forms of Child Labour.

The Central Government is responsible for enforcement of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 in railways, major ports, mines, oil fields and establishments under the control of the Central Government. In all other cases, State/UT Governments are responsible for enforcement of the Act. Employers found employing children in occupations and processes prohibited under the Act are prosecuted under the provisions of the Act. State/ UT Governments furnish informations to the Central Government on implementation of the provisions of the Act.

Government has already initiated steps towards ratification of ILO Convention Nos. 138 and 182.

Bill on the Working of Indian Labour

† 4190 SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to prepare a comprehensive Bill to simplify further the working of Indian labour;

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the draft of the said Bill has been finalised; and

(d) whether it is expected to introduce the said Bill during the winter session of the Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) There is no such proposals under the consideration of the Government.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Child labour in Gujarat

4191. SHRI BRAHMA KUMAR BHATT : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of child labour in Gujarat as per Government figures;

(b) particulars of industries in which they are found employed and the age-wise figures;

(c) the steps taken to get them relieved; and

(d) how many, out of them are given education to earn their livelihood?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (d) As per the information received from the State Government of Gujarat, 1018 child labourers and 140 child labourers were detected in hazardous and non-hazardous occupations respectively in a state wide survey conducted during 1997. All child labourers found were below the age of 14 years and engaged mainly in diamond cutting, brassware and carpet weaving industries, dyeing, printing and weaving, engineering, construction, hotel-restaurants, tea shops and automobile garages, etc. Under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, 166 prosecutions were launched in 1997-98. 744 prosecutions were also launched under other Acts to prohibit employment of Child Labour. 1018 child labourers have been withdrawn from factories, mines and other forms of hazardous work and 133 child labourers have been enrolled in education system. 49 children from non-hazardous occupations were provided non-formal education.